



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Board of Health Minutes 09-12-2000

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

3:30 p.m., Fox Community Center

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Carole Allen (Chair), Mr. Gregory Leonardos, Mr. Mark Fingerle
Staff in Attendance: Jackie Keshian RN (Council on Aging), Patsy Kraemer (Director of Human Services), Terri Susi RN (Health Compliance Officer), Marie Walsh (Director of Public Health)

I. Minutes of June 27, 2000 meeting accepted as written.

II. Mr. Alan Silverman requested a variance for a permit to practice massage therapy. Mr. Silverman presented information indicating that his certification will be completed in November. He is presently enrolled in his final course and has completed more than 500 hours of training. The Board voted unanimously to grant Mr. Silverman a provisional permit to expire 11/15/00.

III. Promotion of childhood vaccinations and their public health importance was discussed. Dr. Mary Colpoys of Alewife Brook Pediatrics was present for discussion and indicated that there are a growing number of patients who do not accept vaccinations at her practice. Dr. Colpoys had forwarded to Dr. Allen a flyer promoting discussion groups on vaccine choice; Mr. Fingerle will attend a meeting. To promote the importance of immunization, Ms. Walsh will reserve a display at both library branches for April (National Immunization Month) and will forward articles to the elementary school newsletters and to the Arlington Advocate.

IV. State and Federal Oral Health Reports were reviewed. Ms. Kraemer reported that only one dentist in Arlington accepts Medicaid insurance. Ms. Keshian reported that the Council on Aging has a dental clinic once a month. A local dentist donates time to make recommendations to elders for dental care. Ms. Keshian indicated that a sum of money was donated to the Council on Aging by a local dentist. Mr. Fingerle, Mr. Leonardos and Ms. Kraemer will attend the next meeting of the Council and request that funding be reserved from this donation to cover dental care costs for elders. Ms. Kraemer will assess the need for oral health care in children at the schools.

V. Ms. Walsh reported that flu vaccine is expected to arrive by mid-November. Since the number of doses allotted for Arlington will be reduced by 10%, Ms. Walsh and Ms. Keshian will strategize for the production of the annual flu shot clinic.

VI. Ms. Walsh presented an update on West Nile Virus surveillance: catch basins will be treated with larvicide briquettes during the week of September 11-15. All mosquitoes from the Arlington area have tested negative. There continues to be a low mosquito activity in the Town.

VII. Ms. Walsh reported that Christine Connolly has been hired as the Health Compliance Office for the Tobacco Control Program. During the July compliance check for tobacco sales to minors, there were no sales – 100% compliance was achieved.

VIII. Next Meeting: October 24, 2000 3:30pm.

IX. Adjourn